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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/751,949	12/28/2000	Juergen Kockmann	00 P 9128 US	8563

7590 10/31/2006

Siemens Corporation  
Attn: Elsa Keller, Legal Administrator  
Intellectual Property Department  
186 Wood Avenue South  
Iselin, NJ 08830

EXAMINER
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TSE, YOUNG TOI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2611

DATE MAILED: 10/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

8

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/751,949	KOCKMANN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	YOUNG T. TSE	2611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                      |                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____                                                          | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 17, line 2, the term "said frame" lacks antecedent basis. Claim 18 depends on claim 17.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. The indicated allowability of claims 1-20 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to WO 98/59438 or the corresponding U.S. Patent No. 6,693,885. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 98/59438 (no English translation, see the corresponding U.S. Patent No. 6,693,885).

With respect to claims 1, 5, 9, 12, and 16, FIG. 4 illustrates a time slot structure which allows the maximum possible number of links to be increased from three to four without there being any negative effect on the flexible selection of the carrier frequencies from one active time slot to the next active time slots. As can be seen in FIG. 4, this increase in the maximum number of links from three to four is essentially achieved by the time duration of an inactive time slot, during which no data transmission takes place, being shortened in comparison with the time duration of an active time slot. As is shown in FIG. 4, the time duration of an active time slot Z1, Z3, Z5, Z7, Z9, Z11, Z13 and Z15 in a time frame is in each case 833  $\mu$ s, if the time frame lasts for 10 ms overall. The time duration of the inactive time slots Z2, Z4, Z6, Z8, Z10, Z12, Z14 and Z16 is only 417  $\mu$ s, as illustrated in FIG. 4, and is thus essentially only half the time duration of the active time slots. A slow hopping RF module known from DECT technology requires a time period of at least 417 microseconds after an active time slot, in order to carry out frequency programming for the carrier frequency of the next time slot. Half a time slot of the DECT Standard matched to the ISM band, with a time duration of  $833 \mu\text{s}/2=417 \mu\text{s}$ , it thus sufficient for an inactive time slot (blind slot). See col. 6, lines 9-30.

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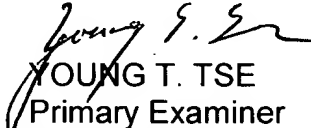
With respect to claims 2-4, 6-8, 10-11, 13-15 and 17-20, according to the ISM band, which also mentioned in the description of the related art of the instant application, it is well known in the art that a frame length of each frame has a duration about ten milliseconds, each transmit or receive slot has a duration of 833 microseconds, limit a carrier frequency usage to less than 400 milli-seconds every thirty seconds, and a duration of use of a carrier frequency is based on a duration of a number of active slots.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOUNG T. TSE whose telephone number is (571) 272-3051. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
YOUNG T. TSE  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2611